

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Remarks

In the Official Communication mailed January 5, 2007, the Examiner indicated that claims 31-33 would be allowed if placed in independent form. In response, claims 1-30 have been canceled, and claims 31-33 have been amended to be in independent form.

Claims 31-33 have been amended by incorporating in each of these claims the limitations of claim 27. In the Decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences mailed September 21, 2006, the Board indicated that the expression "at a distant second distant site" in claim 27 should be corrected in any further prosecution (Board's Decision, page 4, note 1). The Board construed this expression as "a site distant from said first site". (*Id.*) Therefore, claims 31-33 as amended refer to "a second site distant from the first site", in accordance with the Board's instructions.

All of the pending claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Allowance of claims 31-33 as amended is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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